



St Minver School

Head of School: Mrs J Rodwell

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! It has been marvellous to see the children this week after such a long time away. We are excited to see them so eager to return to school and kickstart their learning once again. I do hope, despite the pressures you may have felt homeschooling your children and the uncertain times we have all found ourselves in, that you all have managed to have an enjoyable time together as a family over the summer and that your children are now ready for an exciting final year at St Minver! I am very much looking forward to lots of successes this coming year with them and hope that this letter provides answers to some questions you may have about Year 6. The Class 6 team is comprised of myself, Mr Baines, alongside Mrs Cooke, who will work across Year 5 and Year 6.

What will we learn?

Year 6 has always felt like a special period in children's education as their last year in primary school. Needless to say, I have an important role in preparing your children for their next step and whilst some of that will be in readying them for end of year assessments, those dreaded SATs are not all that we strive towards in Year 6. The curriculum is still wide and varied, and although there is emphasis on Numeracy, Literacy and Science, this is not at the detriment of the other subjects within the curriculum, as many cross curricular links are forged. As you will be able to see below, there is a great deal to cover in all areas. Our literacy this term focuses on character and setting descriptions, comparing biographies and autobiographies and figurative language in poetry. Our class book is *Street Child*, a story about friendship and the hard times of an orphan in Victorian times. In maths, children revisit place value and the number system, the four operations and fractions, decimals and percentage. This term's History topic is *Victorian Britain* and in Science we have 2 units: *Light and how we see things* and *Classifying living things and micro-organisms*. In RE children will learn about the 5 pillars of Islam and our Art work will focus on portraits of different styles, clay gargoyles and techniques of colour tones in painting, as well as plenty of Christmas crafts. In computing Year 6 will learn about various aspects of E safety and in DT the children will study and make bridge structures. PE lessons will cover both athletics skills and a variety of socially distanced games focusing on hand-eye and feet coordination and being active. In music, we will listen to and create music to create mood, inspired by the song 'Happy' and in PSHE children will learn about 'Being Me'.

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St Minver School, Rock Road, St Minver, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 6QD

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Registered in England & Wales - Company No. 07387540

Registered Office: Aspire Academy Trust, Unit 20, St Austell Business Park, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 4FD





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PE kit

Due to Covid-19 and the leisure centre closure, we will not have our usual swimming session this term. But we intend on having 2 PE sessions on Thursdays and Fridays so children can come to school dressed in PE bottoms as they previously did for the active mile on Fridays. All children will be expected to take part in all areas of PE, unless a note is supplied from home with a medical reason for not taking part.

Homework

As you can appreciate there is still an expectation of homework each week. I expect children to read regularly, learn spelling lists (see separate letter regarding spelling), continue to practise times tables and, in addition, I will set a numeracy and literacy homework every Friday and expect these to be handed in on the following Friday. Reading homework will be monitored and parents' signatures **with dates** are required as evidence that your child has read for **at least 80 minutes each week**, made up of at least four 20-minute reading sessions. This is to build stamina by reading for a longer period of time. It is your child's responsibility to make sure their reading record is signed and up to date by Friday morning, when it will be checked. When this expectation is not achieved, children will be given time during their break and/or lunch time to complete this important homework. This reading may be done aloud, or for more able readers at Black level and above, can be done independently. Being a parent, I do understand the difficulties of making time for homework in our busy schedules, however, I do expect all children to complete homework unless they have a valid reason for not doing so. If this is the case, may I request a short note from you. I hope you can support this homework expectation and understand that it is certainly good preparation for what will be expected by the comprehensive school next year.

One last thing: can you please provide written consent if you haven't already given permission for your child to walk home at the end of school.

Once again, I sincerely look forward to working with your children this year. Please feel free to call me at school if you have any concerns about your child or the year ahead. Finally...don't blink, as before you know it, we will be crying with pride as we clap the children out at the end of the year!

My sincerest best wishes

Jethro Baines

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